SEVEN THOUSAND YEARS LATER...

...hemostatic surgery with the precision and feel of the traditional sharp steel scalpel is available.

The Shaw™ Hemostatic Scalpel—The Hotknife—uses a sharp, elevated-temperature blade that **thermally** seals blood vessels as they are cut, minimizing the blood flow that often obscures the operative field. Experience also indicates that the reduction in blood loss achieved may lessen the need for transfusions with their associated costs and clinical risks.

Using temperature-control microcircuitry in the disposable blade, the Shaw Scalpel seals with **heat**—not electricity—so there is no muscle stimulation, and visibly less tissue damage than with electrosurgical units. Studies have shown that the tensile strength and infection resistance of healing incisions made with the Hemostatic Scalpel are not significantly different from those made with a cold scalpel.*

Additionally, the Shaw Hemostatic Scalpel may shorten the operative time once the appropriate technique has been developed, and with all system controls in the scalpel handle, the surgeon has complete finger-tip control of hemostatic surgery.

To appreciate the advantages of the Hemostatic Scalpel, contact your local OXIMETRIX representative.



*Levenson SM, Gruber DK, Gruber C, Seifter E, Molnar J, Petro J: A Hemostatic Scalpel for Burn Debridement. **Archives of Surgery,** 117: 213-220, February 1982.

For details, circle 343 on Quick Response Card.

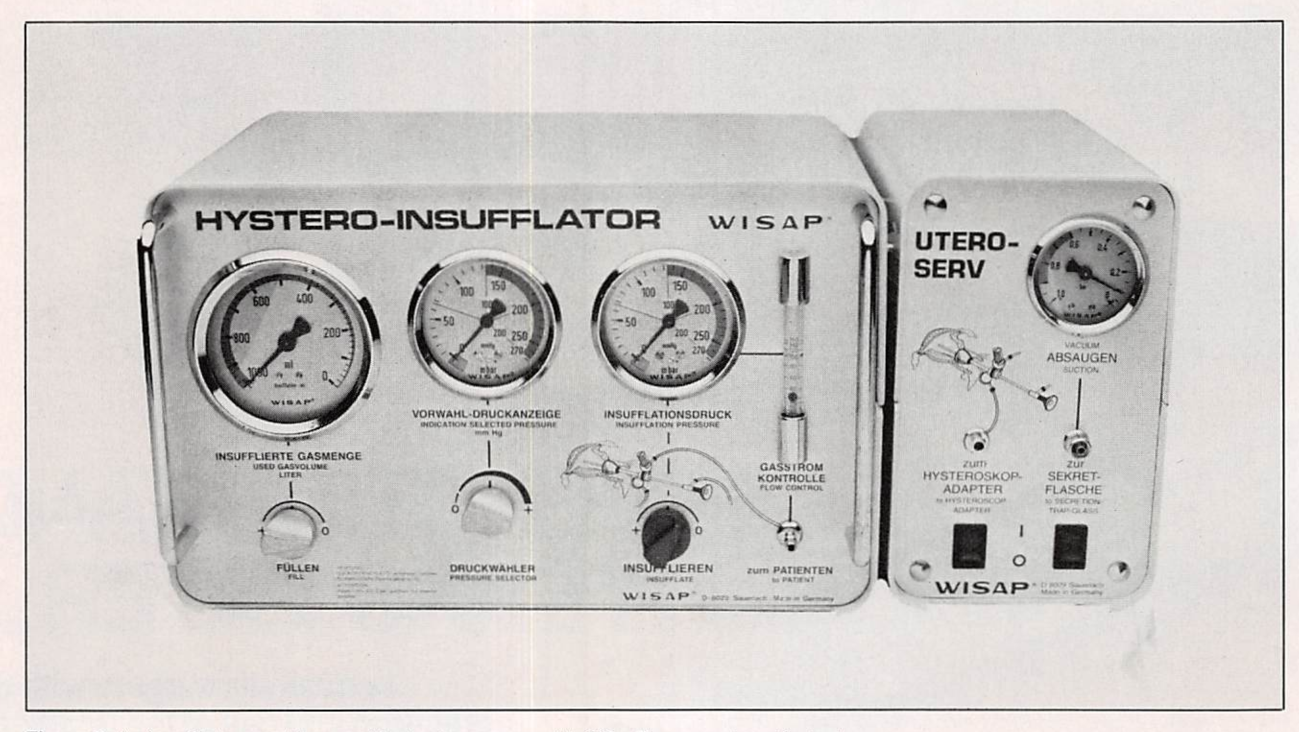


Figure 2. An insufflator must be used for hysteroscopy with CO_2. Flow may be adjusted from 30 to 100 mL/min and intrauterine pressure maintained at 100 mm Hg.

scope in its sheath. Most hysteroscopies are performed in an operating room, and therefore the rather extensive accessories needed are not too troublesome.

Each instrument provides good vision, but the light shower produced by the Olympus instrument is superior. Unfortunately, this manufacturer provides only a few accessories for use with the operating channel. The Storz and Wolf devices have a wide variety of flexible and rigid forceps, probes, scissors, and electrodes (Figure 4).

The wide sheaths of the conventional panoramic hysteroscope provide the largest channels and best instruments for operative hysteroscopy. I prefer rigid instruments; however, both Storz and Wolf sheaths have an optional deflecting device for use with flexible operative instruments. The deflector may be valuable during sterilization procedures when you are inserting a cannula into the uterine tubes. The Wolf nipple is the best one for use with dextran 70.

Contact hysteroscope

The contact hysteroscope (manufactured by the MTO Company, Paris, France, and imported and distributed by Advanced Biomedical Instruments, Woburn, Mass.) requires neither distending medium nor fiberoptic light sources. Ambient light, trapped in a special light-collecting cylinder built into the endoscope, is transmitted by a solid rod of mineral glass. The coating on the end of the

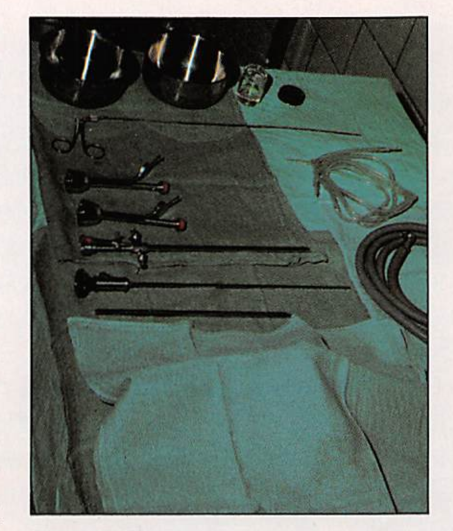


Figure 3. Equipment set-up for conventional panoramic hysteroscopy may be used with dextran 70, CO_2, or D5W as distending media.